



Spring 2014 Political Science



Political Science

SPRING 2014

CLASS OF 2014

The following students are expected to graduate this year:

- ◆ Gabriella Ali Marino
- ◆ Heena Arora
- ◆ Shannyn Ball
- ◆ John Bourquin
- ◆ Jaimie Fitzgerald
- ◆ Kevin Hutzel
- ◆ Chris Ladka
- ◆ Meghan Lombardo
- ◆ Mahnoor Misbah
- ◆ Linda Naumann
- ◆ Brian Roberts
- ◆ Selam Samuel
- ◆ Sindre Viksand

We are proud of all of you and will miss you. We wish you much success and look forward to learning about your activities in the future.

Message from the Chair: Regina S. Axelrod

It is finally Spring and the semester is going so fast that commencement is almost here. It has been a cold and snowy winter. Sometimes classes had to be delayed or even cancelled. (Your professors may be scheduling make-up days so make note of them.) While we are happy to see those of you graduating and moving on to new adventures it is always sad to say farewell. We have spent so much time together not only in class but getting to know you as

individuals. That is why Adelphi is so special. You are all unique and it is a pleasure to see how you've grown in your studies and abilities. When you graduate we will miss you.

New students in the program should learn from the upper classmen that by participating in co-curricular and extracurricular activities (i.e. clubs, teams, *The Delphian*, study abroad and internships) you enrich your educa-

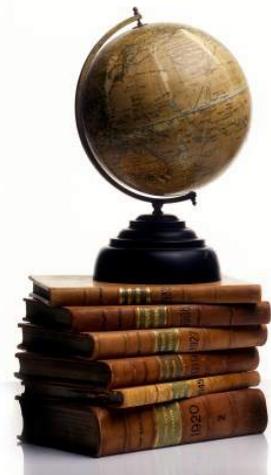
tional experiences. Please visit the political science office in your free time to relax, chat with friends and professors, and read newspapers and journals.

We wish Professor Gray a successful sabbatical next year; we will miss her. Professor Levy will be returning from her sabbatical and assuming the position of chair. I wish everyone a successful culmination to this semester and look forward to seeing you in the Fall.

Study Abroad and Internships

The Political Science faculty strongly encourages students to take advantage of study abroad and internship programs. Overseas, there are excellent programs in Prague and Budapest, among others. The Provost offers a

scholarship to study abroad for which students can compete. Domestically, the Political Science Department has had great success sending our students to The Washington Center for an internship semester.



Political Science Department Awards

Hugh A. Wilson Award for Social and Economic Justice

The Hugh A. Wilson Award recognizes a senior Political Science major for activism in the areas of social and economic justice. The selection criteria are activities that serve the public interest, traditionally vulnerable groups, and social and economic equality.

Past Award Recipient:
2013: Valerie Cardona

Self or peer nomination
Award: monetary

W. Grafton Nealley Award for Excellence in Political Science

The department bestows the W. Grafton Nealley Award for Excellence in Political Science to its most outstanding senior. A committee of faculty members evaluates potential award recipients, taking into consideration factors such as grade point average in political science, the number and difficulty of courses taken, and improvement over time.

Past Award Recipient:
2013: Joseph Bruno

Students are nominated by the Political Science Faculty.
Award: monetary & a book. The recipient's name is displayed on a plaque in the department office.

Robert J. Johnson Prize for Best Political Science Paper

Every year the Political Science Department awards the Johnson Prize for the Best Paper in Political Science. The paper must have been submitted in a political science course within the previous three semesters and received a grade of "A." Students may enter more than one paper.

Past Award Recipient:
2013: Cristobal Zarco

Self nomination
Award: monetary

About the Professors Honored in the Awards

Hugh Wilson, Emeritus Professor of Political Science, taught courses on American Government at Adelphi for 35 years. Before working at Adelphi and through his early years at the university, Professor Wilson was an organizer of poor peoples' movements in Nassau, Suffolk, and Westchester counties. His work focused on economic, social, and racial justice issues including welfare, housing, and employment rights. His justice work transitioned as he became a consultant to nonprofits and served as a trainer for nonprofit boards and staff. Professor Wilson was also a participant in the 1960's civil rights and anti-war movements. He published numerous articles on black politics, the suburbs, the politics of nuclear power, and black families. He is still an active member of the Adelphi community having served as interim director of the Center for African-American and Ethnic Studies (spring

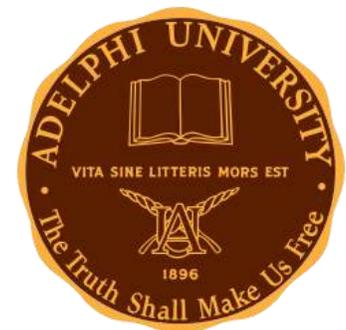
2007). He also returns to teach. Next semester he will teach the senior seminar.

Robert J. Johnson is Emeritus Professor of Political Science at Adelphi University. He taught courses on law, the courts, and public policy. While at Adelphi, Professor Johnson earned a law degree from Hofstra University. He served as department chair several times. Professor Johnson was known to be the moral conscience of the university, speaking with integrity, clarity, and insight on controversial issues.

The late W. Grafton Nealley was a Professor of Political Science at Adelphi University, who taught courses on American Government. Professor Nealley was a co-founder of the Political Studies Department, which was previously part of the History Depart-

ment. Arriving at Adelphi in the 1960's, he was known for his diplomatic manners within and outside the department, Professor Nealley is warmly remembered.

We greatly appreciate the generosity of Professor Emeritus Hugh A. Wilson for funding these Awards.



Pi Sigma Alpha

Pi Sigma Alpha is the national Political Science Honor Society, with over 700 chapters at most leading colleges and universities in the United States. The qualifications for membership at Adelphi's chapter include: 1) at least four courses (including one course at the 300 level) in political science with a "B-" or better in each, 2) Overall Political Science GPA of 3.5 or higher, and 3) Overall university QPA of at least 3.0. It is not necessary to be a political science major to join. Students who are eligible will receive an invitation to join in mid-February. New Pi Sigma Alpha members and their families will

be invited to the senior dinner, attended by the faculty, and graduating seniors and their families, for induction. Membership makes one eligible to compete for lucrative national Pi Sigma Alpha competitions and awards—including best senior thesis and Washington D.C. internship stipends. Additionally, joining accentuates academic achievement and organizational involvement, qualities that are of interest to many employers and graduate schools.

New members include:

- Shannyn Ball
- Jasmine Brown
- Sarah Cinquemani
- Jaimie Fitzgerald
- George Giakoumis
- Gabriel Hardy-Françon
- Michael Khayan
- Jennifer Lin
- Colleen Raga
- Kristie Ranchurejee
- Melissa Salama
- Alexa Savino
- Sebastian Souchet
- Erica White
- Meaghan Wood

Follow format

<http://political-science.adelphi.edu/newsevent/political-science-student-awards-fall-2013/>

include

link:<http://political-science.adelphi.edu/explore/awards-and-honors/>

Departmental Honors

Departmental honors are conferred on students who have a QPA of 3.5 or better in the major and have completed a seminar with a "B" or higher.

Majors Who are Expected to Graduate with Departmental Honors in 2014 are:

- Gabriella Ali Marino
- Heena Arora
- Shannyn Ball
- John Bourquin
- Jaimie Fitzgerald
- Meghan Lombardo
- Mahnoor Misbah
- Linda Naumann
- Brian Roberts
- Sindre Viksand



Advising

Students **MUST** see their advisor for registration. Students should not register without their advisor's approval or they run the risk of not graduating on time, as curriculum offerings are subject to change and requirements must be met!

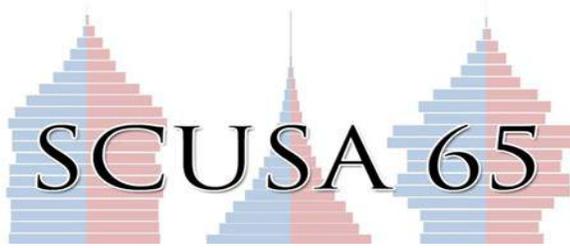
If you are unsure which faculty member is your advisor, please see Ms. Cathy Irwin the administrative assistant the political science office, Blodgett 202.

Faculty members will be posting hours for students to schedule advising appointments. Please come to your appointment prepared by submitting your proposed schedule to C.L.A.S.S. before your meeting. To avoid any scheduling conflict STEP students may need to take the capstone seminar in the spring of their junior year. All STEP students should consult with Professor Axelrod,

516-877-4591. Also, students interested in the Washington Internship for Senior year must take the required Public Policy Seminar (429) that is offered usually in the Spring of each year. Please see Professor Axelrod if you have questions.



Conference Highlights



Report from Gabriel Hardy-Françon
Political Science Major, Junior
West Point, New York—Oct. 30—Nov. 2, 2013



follow format:
<http://political-science.adelphi.edu/newsevent/student-conference-highlights-fall-2013/>

It seems right to start by thanking the department of political science for the opportunity to experience my first conference on Global Affairs. Although the title was **States Affairs,** the topics addressed at the roundtables were much broader, including Twitter, women in society, the environment—all the major subjects that world leaders are working on as I am writing this. The theme of the conference was “The Impact of Demographics.” We were approximately 200 students, each being assigned to a roundtable that would address only one particular topic such as “The Dying Bear Reborn?” (on Russia), “The Revolution Will Be Tweeted,” “Old Europe,” or “From Mil to Civ,” which is the discussion I attended. For each topic, we had to look at how demographics impact the subject. Roundtables were comprised of 12-23 students, along with co-chairs, who were professionals and experts on the issues being discussed. The debate lasted for three days, for a total of 23 hours, and culminated in a collective policy paper, which attempted to prescribe adequate answers to the problems.

What I loved about this conference was how seriously we, as students, were taken. West Point’s superintendent who addressed us on the first evening, during a welcoming panel, reminded us that we had been picked to attend this conference, that we are the leaders of tomorrow, and that this conference was the chance for us to build a professional network and to learn how to fulfill our future missions. He emphasized how this was the opportunity for us to develop our leadership, and I think we all did. The conference helped me gain confidence in myself as well as in others, for the people with whom I worked were so brilliant that I would have no problem later in life giving them my trust, assuming we will meet again.

At some points it was difficult to avoid digressing, because we all had great ideas. Happily though, none of the people sitting at my roundtable showed animosity or frustration. We all tried to understand each other’s point, first by listening thoroughly to what one had to say, and then by letting every single person speak. I would like here to underline that some people around my table came from prestigious Ivy League schools such as Harvard and Columbia, and they proved one of my theories of life to be right; I believe that regardless of what school you attend, what matters is the way you express yourself and the initiative you show in whatever work you do. I felt very proud to be at the table representing Adelphi University and all the brilliant people I know on campus. Attending this conference showed me that we all have an opportunity to achieve the important political positions of tomorrow; it comes down to our desire, determination, and involvement. Adelphi University gives us the right tools to reach our high ambitions.

Conference Highlights, cont.



55th Annual US Air Force Academy Assembly 2014 • Feb 3 - 5

Report from Sarah Cinquemani
Political Science Major, Junior
Colorado Springs, Colorado—Feb. 3-5, 2014

In early February, I was surrounded by Super Bowl attendees at LaGuardia airport, during a snowstorm, waiting to fly to Colorado. For three days, I was the Adelphi representative attending the **55th Annual Academy Assembly at the US Air Force Academy**. The focus of the assembly was India-US Relations. Though the weather was a chilling -22 degrees Fahrenheit both days, the discussions and lectures were heated and passionate. Nearly 150 delegates from colleges across the country and abroad participated in multiple roundtable discussions, listened to scholars lecture about food security, terrorism, foreign policy and more. The few days I was there were filled from sunrise to way past sunset with opportunities to address, in roundtables, what the speakers offered, while also addressing our personal questions and ideas about India. I thought I would be out of place at a conference focused on foreign relations of India and the US, but I found the roundtables to be the optimal opportunity for me to make connections about matters of international relations that I studied at Adelphi. As the hours went by, I found myself excited for the next round of discussions. I couldn't wait to get back into heated, hour-long conversations with my group.

While there, I became close to a student from China who studies at George Washington University. It was fascinating to have a conversation with someone from China about foreign policy and hear first hand how things really are. We came to the conclusion that more students need to start the dialogue with people from other countries to acquire a better understanding of global politics. It was apparent in my roundtable sessions, with people during meals and while listening to lectures, that my coursework in Professor Laatikainen's International Relations class was extremely relevant. When talking about Indian security, it was difficult to bypass the question of terrorism from its neighbor, Pakistan. The Indian government, though fragmented, is working tirelessly with the US to strengthen its military power and knowledge to protect its citizens. This conference opened my eyes to the countless ties which connect countries together. From a discussion about India and the United States, we learned about China, Pakistan, Syria and Mexico. I am increasingly impressed with what my peers are passionate about and how they focus their time to learn more about the areas in politics they care most about.



Internships

Christopher Ladka, Rural & Migrant Ministry

Can be set up similarly to the Conference Highlights post



On April 5 and 6, I traveled to Lyons, New York, the seat of Wayne County, on a delegation sponsored and organized by Rural & Migrant Ministry (RMM), a statewide nonprofit where I am an Intern. Through RMM, I work on the Justice for Farmworkers Campaign on Long Island, yet there are few farms in Nassau County so it was awesome to go upstate where most of RMM's organizing goes on. We went on a tour of Wayne County, visited an apple processing plant, and talked to farmworkers.

Farmworkers are excluded from the traditional labor rights and regulations available to all other NYS workers and suffer from acute poverty, wage theft, and harassment from local and federal authorities. Farmworkers, who pick the food that nourishes Americans, are an exploited class of people.

The stress placed upon the farmworkers we met was clear; they often work over 14 hours during the peak harvest time, doing backbreaking labor without a day of rest. Oftentimes, farmworkers make minimum wage, or less. Many are immigrant workers without any recourse to defend themselves legally, and have their working hours misrepresented or simply not paid. One woman shared with us a particularly telling account; whenever she worked on a new farm, invariably, she would suffer some form of sexual harassment or verbal abuse, which is a significant problem in the fields.

The experiences we heard were troubling, but we were encouraged by the farmworkers' resilience, the bonds of their families and seeing their children in school with brighter futures ahead of them. It was a defining moment for me as a political science student at Adelphi. For so long I've been learning in courses about power dynamics, social movements and political campaigns and I was now translating my knowledge into social change. If the Lyons delegation was united around one thing, it's that we would not stop until the brutal exploitation of farmworkers had ended.



Alexa Savino, L.I. Office of Senator Kirsten Gillibrand and Rural & Migrant Ministry

I am currently interning for both U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand (D) and a statewide nonprofit organization coordinating advocacy efforts for farmworkers' rights, known as Rural & Migrant Ministry. When working for the Senator, I deal with constituent services, communicating with Long Island residents regarding issues relevant to the Senator's areas of focus (women's rights, agriculture, environmental sustainability, veterans' rights), in addition to managing press-related tasks and attending events on behalf of the office. For instance, I represented Senator Gillibrand's LI regional branch at a meeting for Rebuild by Design, a federally-funded program in which teams of experts develop plans for creating a resilient post-Sandy community, and drafted a memo to document the meeting's results. My tasks with Rural & Migrant Ministry include expanding community outreach efforts to build up our LI delegation, planning events to generate support for relevant state legislation, and researching the state of LI labor and agriculture to better illustrate the region's rural landscape. I gave a presentation on RMM's mission for the Long Island Immigrant Alliance and drafted materials for distribution, based on my research, to assist the campaign. Having the opportunity to play an active role in both of these internships simultaneously has proven useful: they are serving to complement and enhance my knowledge of the political realm, as I better understand the interplay between, and the direct line connecting, federal tasks and responsibilities and grassroots movements of state/local relevance.



Internships, cont.

Michael Khayan Lontscharitsch, Washington, DC

As an intern with the Washington Center, I am working for Carolyn Maloney's office. She represents New York's twelfth district and is a strong advocate for women's rights in addition to her role in the Financial Services and Government Oversight and Reform Committees. While in Washington I have: attended briefings on a range of topics (i.e. the Arab spring in Bahrain, WWF & Sierra Club on the TPP, Senate Finance budget hearing, and even one on circadian rhythm); learned about the Capitol and even given tours; developed skills in constituent correspondence; written briefing summaries; heard from some prominent people (including the creator of the Zogby poll); visited most of the Smithsonians and the Philipps collection; enjoyed free concerts at the National Gallery of Art and the Portrait Gallery; visited Virginia & Philadelphia; begun writing a ten-page policy recommendation (for my class, 21st century American foreign policy) on the current situation in Venezuela; and joined protests at the White House and OAS regarding Venezuela.

This internship has improved my knowledge of the legislative process, which began in Professor Gray's seminar on agricultural policy. Being in the office on a daily basis has clarified for me how the literature in Professor Axelrod's public policy seminar relates to the actual work that the staff does.



Sarah Cinquemani, Estee Lauder

I am a Political Science and Environmental Studies double major. This semester, I intern twice a week at Estee Lauder in Melville, NY. When this opportunity came about through the Career Center, I jumped at the opportunity to work in a corporate setting, something I have never done. I am a lab assistant in the Corporate Mascara division where mascara for all Estee Lauder brands is created. Though not a chemist, I am excited to wear my lab coat and goggles every day as I weigh out raw materials. My daily tasks have included: labeling products for blind consumer testing, testing products on my own eyelashes and learning how to use the equipment in the facility. Soon I will be working on my own research project. Even though this is mascara testing, the research skills I have learned in my political science major, certainly inform my thoughts on how to analyze and write about research.

Jennifer Lin, Nassau County District Attorney's Office

This semester I have the honor of interning at the Nassau County District Attorney's Office, which is a stone's throw away from Adelphi at the courthouse in Mineola. While many of my responsibilities have been administrative, it has been educational. I have seen the work of our many assistant district attorneys (ADAs) up close. For the last few weeks, I have been assisting two of our ADAs prepare for a robbery trial by transcribing a video interview of the defendant, which served as an important piece of evidence. I observed a number of court sessions during the trial and helped the ADAs transport the boxes of evidence they used in their statements. This past week, I watched the closing statements of both the defense and the prosecution. The following day, while I was assisting a paralegal organize forensics reports and prepare file inserts for the case folders used to organize evidence, I learned the jury had found the defendant guilty.



While my internship does involve tedious work, I am very satisfied with my experience. I now have first-hand knowledge of how a courthouse operates and have learned more about the law. I am sure this will help me with my law school admissions process this Fall!

Faculty News

Professor Regina S. Axelrod gave a lecture, "Agenda Setting," at the Faculty of International Studies, University of Higher Economics, Prague, on March 19, 2014. She also presented the paper, "The Czech Nuclear Renaissance" International Studies Association, in Toronto on March 26, 2014. The 4th edition of her book, *The Global Environment: Institutions, Law, and Policy* (Washington, DC: Congressional Quarterly), which was co-edited by Stacy D. VanDeveer (Congressional Quarterly) 2014. Professor Axelrod's chapters are, "Environmental Policy Making and Global Leadership in the European Union" pp. 157-186 and "Democracy and the Global Nuclear Renaissance: From the Czech Republic to Fukushima," pp. 305-329.

Professor Margaret Gray has been giving talks about her new book *Labor and the Locavore: The Making of a Comprehensive Food Ethic* (University of California Press). She has spoken at Hofstra University, Columbia University, and Vassar College. She will also take part in the Brooklyn Food Book Fair. In addition, Professor Gray will be making presentations this semester at three conferences: The Latin American Studies Association, The Labor and Employment Relations Association, and the Agriculture and Human Values Conference. Professor Gray will be on sabbatical for the 2014-2015 academic year and is looking forward to working on her next research project on labor trafficking in New

York State, but she will certainly miss her students!

Professor Katie Laatikainen During spring 2014, Professor Laatikainen continued to edit the two-volume *Sage Handbook on European Foreign Policy* (forthcoming 2015), for which she also wrote the chapter, "The EU and the United Nations." She also worked on a book chapter, 'The EU Delegation at the UN in New York' for a new edited volume by David Spence and Josef Batora, *The European Union's External Action: Changing the Face of European Diplomacy*, which will be published by Palgrave in 2015. She attended the International Studies Association conference in Toronto, Canada in March 2014, where she presented her paper 'Conceptualizing Groups and Group Politics at the UN' on the panel Group Dynamics in Multilateral Politics: Conceptualizing regional arrangements and issue-coalitions in the UN General Assembly. She also was asked to participate on the ISA Roundtable "The Spaces and Places of Multilateralism in Today's World," where she discussed the divergence of EU and UN multilateralism.

Professor Traci Levy is on sabbatical during the spring 2014 semester. She has been researching how political rhetoric has increasingly acknowledged the important role that the families of U.S. military personnel play in recruitment, readiness, retention, and morale. This rhetoric has

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ed by a policy toward benefits public ethic of care and extensive military efforts. In April, Prof. Levy presents this research on a panel at the Western Political Science Association's Annual Meeting in Seattle.

Professor Danielle Zach continued to develop her research on diasporas and armed conflict. She is collaborating with New York University's Glucksman Ireland House to advance its oral history project on Irish America, particularly with respect to her interest in transnational activism across the Atlantic during the Northern Ireland Troubles. Over the past few months, she has twice given media interviews regarding the ongoing civil war in Syria, and her commentary has appeared in *Newsday*. She recently presented a paper on international cooperation concerning Somali piracy—with attention to the role of UN bodies and agencies in countering maritime crime off the Horn of Africa—at the 2014 International Studies Association Conference in Toronto.



Political Science Alumni: Where are

If you would like to appear in future Newsletters, please e-mail Levy@adelphi.edu.

Michelle DiPuma (2007) works as a Tax Associate in the Accounting Methods & Credit Services practice of KPMG's Boston office. She plans to explore Boston once she defrosts from her first New England winter. Michelle also published an article, "Why the Recent 'Boeing Case' Will Not Ultimately Limit a State's Ability to Provide Incentives to Attract Businesses," in the Summer 2013 (Vol. 66, No. 4) issue of *The Tax Lawyer*.

Gustavo Escobar (2002) is currently finishing his 5th year as a Special Education teacher in the NYC Department of Education. He is teaching 8th grade at PS 127 in East Elmhurst, Queens. After attending New York Law School, Gustavo worked in the non-profit sector at The Action Center in Far Rockaway, Queens as its academic director. He then earned his Master's in Special Education as a NYC Teaching Fellow, and graduating from LIU-Brooklyn. Gustavo recently celebrated his first wedding anniversary and runs a sports podcast that can be found on twitter and instagram @cngsports.



Vivian Fridas (2010) finished her graduate studies in Government and Politics at St. John's University in December 2013. Vivian is active in disability advocacy and is a member of the National Federation of the Blind (NFB). She has participated in lobbying Congress for issues that would create and apply more equality for Americans who are blind or visually impaired. Vivian continues to serve the guide dog community by

being an executive member on the Graduate Council for Guiding Eyes for the Blind. Vivian is grateful for the wonderful gift of her guide dog, Ditto (a black lab), who allows her to be more mobile and independent. The two celebrate their third anniversary together in May. Finally, Vivian will be participating in a summer program sponsored by the United States International Council on Disabilities (USICD). Vivian will be paired with an organization in Washington, D.C. that deals specifically with international affairs and development issues.

David Fuller (2006) was elected chairman of the Stratford Zoning Commission in January, and has won the Karl A. Sholanick Award for "Most Valuable Republican" by the Stratford Republican Town Committee. David is working on his Master's Thesis in Communications at Fairfield University, which analyzes increasing localization of news content between global media conglomerates. David also works as an editor for Hamlet Hub, a hyper-local online news site in Westchester and Fairfield Counties, and is advising James Brown, candidate for Connecticut's Third Congressional District. David does not sleep.

Joanne Joseph (2012) is in her second year at Cornell Law School and is serving as the Vice President of the South Asian Law Students Association and as the Acquisitions Editor for the *Cornell Journal of Law & Public Policy*. Her Note, "Uprooting the American Dream: The Diminished and Deferred Rights of the U.S. Citizen Child in the Immigration Context", will be published in a forthcoming issue of the *Cornell Journal of Law & Public Policy*. One of the highlights of this semester was the opportunity to travel to Nepal with the Cornell International Human Rights Clinic, where she discussed litigation strategy with a network of South Asian women's rights lawyers. This summer, she will be working as a summer associate at the Washington, D.C. office of a large international firm.

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Aleksandra Pinkhasova (2013) is finishing her first year at the George Washington University Law School. For the first part of the summer she will be interning for a federal judge in the Eastern District of New York, and for the second part of the summer she will be studying international human rights law and advocacy at Oxford University. In her free time, Aleksandra plays soccer in the Metro Sports League for a co-ed division I team.

Tayyaba Bukhari (2010) worked for NGOs focused in policy analysis and human rights after graduating from Adelphi. She is currently completing her first year at Brandeis University's The Heller School of Social Policy and Management. Tayyaba is concentrating in women's health and educational development, and intends to intern at a women's public policy center in summer 2014.

Ashley Noveck Ortiz (2008) is taking time off to focus on her family. Ashley and her husband, Jesse, just welcomed their second child, Nora Anne, on March 21, 2014.



his second year at Adelphi. He recently published an article, "Masculinity in Negotiation" that was featured on the *Journal of Law Review's* Summer 2013 issue.

Political Science Alumni: Where are they now? (continued)

Michael Salvi (2006) was to married Angela Lanza this past Valentine's Day at East Wind in Wading River. Michael is the Office Services Manager at Penton Media in NYC.

Kerri Souto (2010) started a new job in Intergovernmental Relations in the office of Suffolk County Executive Steven Bellone. She is heavily involved in community outreach initiatives and coordinates the internship program. Kerri is enjoying her new position and is taking advantage of every opportunity to learn first-hand how Suffolk County government functions.



Nick Tomasso (BA 2011, MA 2012) is a 2013 Teach for America corps member in Chicago, Illinois. He is currently teaching Middle School Special Education in the North Lawndale community of Chicago. When not at school, Nick enjoys riding his bike alongside Lake Michigan (polar vortex permitting).



Christian Fundo, Phil DiSanto, & Joe Bruno at the Honors College alumni brunch

Andrew Zang (2009) recently completed his Master of Laws in real estate from New York Law School this past May. He is in his second year of work at the global real estate firm Studley, where he advises corporations on all aspects of their real estate needs, whether it be acquisitions, leasing, sales or subleasing. Their clients include CBS, Sirius XM Radio, Major League Soccer as well as numerous law firms and financial institutions. Andrew is looking to get more active in various NYC political and real estate-oriented organizations that include city planning and zoning as well as economic development.

Svetla Marinova (2010) received an M.A. in Climate and Society from Columbia University in 2011 with the intention to continue with an academic career; however, she was recruited by an investment research firm called AlphaSights just a few days after starting her PhD program, and ended up picking the job over grad school. Svetla is currently at McGraw-Hill Financial, where she is Lead Business Analyst at the IQ Lab, which is the R&D arm of the company. She works closely with engineers in iterative cycles, building the next generation of financial analytics products for the investment world. She is also taking evening classes in finance at CUNY Baruch. In her free time, Svetla frequents electronic music events and festivals, travels the world, and paints what she calls "rave art."



Antoniya Kadeva, Svetlana Marinova, & Yana Kusayeva

ADELPHI'S "10 UNDER 10"



Four of the people in this photograph were political science majors (sometimes with a double major). They include **Elvin Ramos** (top left), **Michael Berthel** (top row, second from left), **Rob Meekins** (top row, second from right) and **Allen Louissaint** (top right).

According to the university, 10 under 10 is "one way...[it] honors those alumni who have distinguished themselves through the exceptional accomplishments they have achieved within 10 years of graduating from Adelphi."

Student Survey Political Science Major

What is your opinion on Putin's decision to



The following responses were obtained by Political Science Major: Alexa Savino

Mahnoor Misbah, Senior - "Putin is essentially acting as a hegemonic power in his decision to annex Crimea for Russia. He has shifted the view of Russia from an ally to a potential threat for the United States and the global community. Although Putin may have a grand scheme that he's operating under, from the perspective of everyone else in the international arena, his actions seem to reflect a hunger for power and control. Putin claims to be acting in the best interest of ethnic Russians in Crimea, but it is very likely that he has several ulterior motives. His actions have prompted the U.S. to institute sanctions against Russia, which can only cause harm. Ultimately, the question will come down to whether the annexation is worth international condemnation and sanctions."

Elizabeth Rizzo, Senior - "First of all, the annexation of Crimea is illegal according to international law. Russia's initial movement of forces onto the peninsula, then those ridiculous referendum choices, plus UN recrimination? Come on, Putin! As for Crimea/Ukraine relations, let's face it, things were going sour (e.g., law on minority languages), but Russia should have let them figure it out on their own. What

would have happened if legitimate methods were used? I really get me, the way Putin went about doing what was best for Russia and not necessarily for Crimea."

Jennifer Lin, Junior - "In an increasingly globalized world, political leaders often feel the need to assert an aggressive foreign policy in order to ensure that they leave their mark on history. While I do not understand Putin, it is clear that he and his advisors subscribe to a realist view on international relations, where each rational actor on the world stage acts in its own self-interest. His desire to chip away at American hegemony and prove that Russia is still just as powerful as she was during the Cold War drives many of the decisions he makes, such as this recent attempt to annex the Crimea. Given that many of the Ukrainians in the Crimea identify with Russian culture and do not oppose the possibility of rejoining their fellow Slavs in Russia, the problem is vocalized by the protests of outside actors, such as the United States. The West fears that if Putin is allowed free rein to annex the Crimea, it is a green light for continued aggression. However, despite the many dangers, Ukraine must retain its sovereignty and the right to negotiate with Russia fear of outside influence. Keep the political power for decision making in the hands of the Ukrainians unless they begin to advocate for Western intervention."

Sebastian Souchet, Sophomore - "I believe that the situation in the Crimean region draws attention to the fundamental need for international consensus and explicit international law concerning secession and declarations of independence. This is of course idealistic, but it would hopefully solve many of

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asked: r Russia?

issues in this situation (and conditions). As for the legality of the annexation of Crimea, one must first note the Crimean referendum's violation of article 73 of the Ukrainian Constitution, and the fact that it did not include an option declining to join Russia. I would argue that such facts, combined with the Russian military influence in the Crimean region both prior to, and at the time of the referendum, invalidate both the referendum and the subsequent annexation."





Croatian Ambassador Vladimir Drobnyak Visits Adelphi

On March 12, 2014, Adelphi University hosted Mr. Vladimir Drobnyak, the Permanent Representative of Croatia to the United Nations. The event was part of The Ambassador Lecture Series, which is designed to bring UN ambassadors and other international experts to the university, in order to give students insight into the inner workings of political institutions. The lecture was sponsored by the Department of Political Science and the International Leadership Coordinating Committee, and attracted many students and faculty who are interested in global affairs.

The focus of Mr. Drobnyak's talk was the European Union, and specifically the implications of EU enlargement. He started with a brief overview of the EU, explaining some of the steps a country must take in order to join, such as applying and going through almost a decade of negotiations. During these negotiations, the candidate state must show to the EU that it is economically, politically, and socially aligned with the EU and its goals. The process is rigorous, but as Mr. Drobnyak was quick to point out, the advantages are worth the effort. He outlined some of these advantages, on the national, regional, and global level. First off, on the national level, being part of the EU puts you on equal footing in a more advanced environment, which allows you to better compete. Regionally, joining the EU impacts neighbor states and increases their incentives to join. This can set off a chain reaction of change, because states have increased incentives to better improve their national conditions in order to be considered for EU membership. Lastly, in terms of global impacts, the EU, according to Drobnyak has grown into a global "force to be reckoned with." In terms of powerful actors in the international sphere, the EU exerts great influence in the international community, serving as a crucial player.

Naturally, when talking about the influence of the EU, the conversation drifted to the events happening in Ukraine. There was a lot of curiosity within the audience about where the EU stood in regards to the situation. Here, the ambassador said he had to be very careful with his words, but was certain in declaring that the Charter of the UN had been violated, and that a de-escalation of the crisis in Crimea and Ukraine was necessary. The talk was held several days before Russia went ahead and annexed Crimea, so it is clear that the ambassador's and more broadly speaking, the EU's wishes have been violated. As the conflict continues, and Russia continues to exert undue power, while it is threatened with sanctions, it seems evident that de-escalation is exactly what is needed in this entire situation.

The future of the EU will likely see more integration, according to Drobnyak, as more and more countries wish to be included. However, Drobnyak stated that this structure would be difficult to implement in other regions around the world. One fact was clear: the EU is incredibly influential and many other regions would like to emulate it.

Report from Mahnoor Misbah;
Political Science Major, Senior



*Professor Regina Axelrod with Ambassador Vladimir Drobnyak
Photo provided by Mahnoor Misbah*



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Alumni Spotlight: *Chantal Hamlin*



Chantal Hamlin graduated *magna cum laude* from Adelphi in 2007 with a major in political science. She is currently the Interim Executive Director of Brooklyn Jubilee. Brooklyn Jubilee is a Brooklyn non-profit that works to restore communities by providing access to integrated legal, health, and nutrition services for low-income Brooklyn residents through community partnerships. In addition to her role as director, Chantal provides legal services through various legal help desks with Brooklyn Jubilee. Chantal's practice is focused on landlord/tenant matters, public benefits matters, and Sandy-related disaster matters (including homeowners and flood insurance matters).

Chantal is a graduate of Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, class of 2010. While at the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, she served as the co-Managing Editor of the *Journal of Law and Gender*. She also served as the President and Treasurer of the Black Law Students Association and Christian Legal Society, respectively. Chantal currently serves as a member of the Black Asian Latino Law Student Association Alumni Group.

Chantal is proud of her Adelphi University undergraduate degree. While at Adelphi University, she served in many student organizations on campus and was a member of two honor societies. She was recently recognized as an Adelphi University "10 Under 10" alumna. Currently, Chantal serves as a Trustee on Adelphi University's Board of Trustees.

